



# **Delegation of Authority** For Management of the **Terwilliger Fire**

Date

I accept this delegation of authority:

Chris Cline, Agency Administrator

Oregon Department of Forestry

South Cascade District

Doug Johnson, Incident Commander	Date

## AGENCY ADMINISTRATORS' INTENT Terwilliger Fire

As Incident Commander, you are responsible to the Agency Administrators for the overall management of this incident.

#### RISK MANAGEMENT AND EXPOSURE

Utilize risk management tools to provide for the well-being of incident personnel and the public while implementing operational objectives commensurate with values at risk and probability of success.

Being mindful of "Life First" principles (Stop, Think, Talk and then Act) is of utmost importance when identifying, evaluating and developing operational strategies and tactics to be balanced with values at risk. The following statement are to provide more context about the purpose of Life First and significantly increase the odds that everyone comes home safe:

- Ensure awareness, understanding and support of leader's intent.
- Ensure a common understanding of unnecessary exposure exists among agency administrators, commanders, responders, and community leaders.
- Consider what actions can be taken within spheres of influence to reduce unnecessary exposure.
- Commit to **Stop, Think, Talk...before Acting** to help eliminate unnecessary exposure and increase the odds that everyone comes home.

A strategy summary and course of action is documented in the Wildland Fire Decision Support System (WFDSS). The courses of action for each incident were developed within a risk management framework and reflect the Forest's best intention for meeting reasonable objectives while minimizing unnecessary exposure. This intent letter provides the basis for the incident strategy you are to implement. We expect you to re-engage with the Agency Administrators if at any time the selected strategy is anticipated to no longer be achievable, or reasonable. For private lands protected by ODF within the WFDSS boundaries, your direction is to evaluate and implement strategies and tactics that protect forest resources second only to life safety. This is accomplished by minimizing acres burned while utilizing cost effective suppression tactics.

### Special Notes:

- Traffic corridors receive high volumes of high speed traffic.
- The 19 Rd (Aufderheide Drive) is a high use recreation area.

#### PRINCIPLE CONTACTS

The designated Forest Service Agency Representative for the Terwilliger Fire is: Darren Cross

The designated Oregon Department of Forestry Deputy Agency Administrator for South Cascade District is: Melvin Thornton

The Lead Forest Service Resource Advisor(s) assigned to work with the Team on the incident are:

#### VALUES TO BE PROTECTED

LIFE is the most important value to be protected. There is no higher value than that of the responder/firefighter along with members of the public in the area.

#### **Terwilliger Fire**

- Private Industrial Timber Lands to the West and North.
- Communities and private lands to the North.
- Trails, trailheads and other recreation sites along the 19 road.
- Nearby active and to be sold timber sales (maps to be provided).
- Threatened and endangered fish species in the South Fork of the McKenzie River.

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#### **EXPECTATIONS**

- It is a requirement to track costs and maintain business and accounting records for the incident.
- Manage the fire cost-effectively commensurate with the direction from the Agency Administrators and the values to be protected.
- Utilize Agency specific Incident Business Management Guides and practices, and Incident Business Advisor/Finance Advisor(s) to ensure a complete and accurate fiscal package for each fire is provided to the host unit prior to release. Track costs consistent with the Supplemental Fire Suppression (Cost-share) Agreement if developed. Notify the Agency Administrators if it is anticipated the actual costs may exceed the cost guidelines described in WFDSS.
- Initial Attack Responsibility: You are responsible for initial attack on Federal land within the TFRs
  (see attached map). The Ranger Districts will retain initial attack responsibility for the remainder of
  the Ranger Districts. ODF will retain initial attack responsibility for all private lands within and
  outside the TFR. Please work with ODF and the Ranger District to assist with resources needed for
  new incidents.
- Provide daily cooperator briefings during the times cooperators and/or Agency Administrators feel there is a need.
- Work with the local cooperators and emergency management in developing and monitoring the Evacuation Level Management Action Points.
- Provide opportunities for affected landowners to stay informed on current status, future strategy and tactics.
- Pre-approval is required for new dozer line through the respective AA/AREP unless the need is imminent.

- Keep the Agency Administrators and Agency Representatives informed of public meetings and
  media contacts. Utilize the Agency Representatives/Administrators local knowledge when
  considering timing, location and needs for public meetings. Maintain contact with the local Public
  Affairs IMT Contact, Jen Velez, and ODF Agency Administrator to ensure you build on our
  existing relationships, contacts, and key messages.
- You are responsible for providing for public safety as well as for managing public use and occupancy of the Incident Area. Work with the Agency Representatives/Administrators to secure all necessary closure orders.
- All federal land resource damage caused by suppression will be repaired. Maintain a record of suppression damage and coordinate with the Lead Resource Advisor in the development and implementation of a Suppression Repair Plan. Also begin developing turn back standards early in the incident with both federal and ODF contacts.
- The Terwilliger Fire is partially located in the Three Sisters Wilderness. Wilderness character, values, and integrity are high priorities. Unless otherwise approved by the Agency Administrator/Agency Rep., utilize Minimum Impact Suppression Tactics (MIST). The use of chainsaws and helicopter bucket work is approved. Handline construction in the wilderness should be maintained at a minimum necessary to achieve objectives. The use of pumps, helicopter landings, burnouts, slingloads, and aerial retardant need prior approval from the agency administrator or agency representative.
- Activities within Inventory Roadless Areas: The Terwilliger Fire is within the IRA adjacent to the Three
  Sisters Wilderness. IRAs were set aside to provide TES habitat, large undisturbed landscapes and areas
  of dispersed outdoor recreation opportunities. Any activities that could greatly change the character of
  the IRA should be minimized. Any timber harvest, road construction or reconstruction is not permitted
  without approval from the Regional Forester. Fire disturbance is more acceptable than suppression
  disturbance.
- Approved dip sites: Cougar Reservoir is the preferred dip site. For additional dip sites refer to Lead READ prior to dipping.
- Use of retardant on Federal lands inside AND outside of wilderness is pre-approved for the following situations:
  - a. If it is not in a retardant avoidance area, then it is approved. If time allows, please also consult the Willamette "YES" map.
  - b. Dropping retardant in an avoidance area is approved if life is threatened.
  - c. If it does not meet the above, then need pre-approval through the Agency Administrator/Agency Representative.
- Byproducts from large fire line construction and hazard tree felling from suppression activities will be decked off site during suppression in coordination with the Lead READ and Timber READ.
- Manage the human resources assigned to the incident in a manner that promotes a positive, inclusive, harassment free work environment. Ensure all personnel and public contacts are treated with dignity and respect. Ensure any and all human resource related complaints or issues are appropriately addressed, and that the issue or complaint is communicated to the Agency

Administrator or Agency Rep. There is "zero tolerance" for harassment, alcohol, cannabis use, or illegal drug use.

- Provide agency and inter-agency training opportunities to strengthen our organizational capabilities.
- Coordinate with the Resource Advisor(s) on any action to prevent the infestation and spread of noxious weeds or aquatic invasive species. Ensure helicopter buckets coming from off forest/unit are cleaned prior to use on all fires.
- Plan for a closeout after action review and evaluation before the command and general staff depart. We request a 24 hour advance notice of the meeting.
- In the event of a hazardous materials incident, notify Eugene Dispatch immediately and refer to the contacts in the inbrief package to avoid delay in clean-up.
- Coordinate with the Agency Administrator or Agency Representative to staff and sign road closures to provide for public and incident personnel safety. Contract security is available locally.
- Communication and feedback between the Incident Commander, IMT and Agency Administrators
  or their designees is required. Anticipate frequent discussions related to the following points of
  interest:
  - Operational effectiveness based on assigned resources
  - Critical resource shortages
  - Landowner and Community Issues
  - Incident Complexity and conflicting objectives
  - Three to five day progress projections
  - Incident cost projections